

AUG 31 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No. : 09/315,390
Applicant : CRANE
Filed: : May 20, 1999
TC/A.U. : 1771
Examiner : Hai Vo

Confirmation No.: 6469

Docket No. : 7373/71172
Customer No. : 22242

URGENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
2011 South Clark Place
Customer Window
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

August 31, 2004

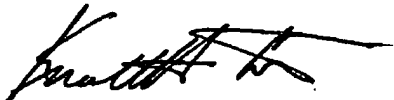
STATUS REQUEST

Sir:

A Request to Withdraw Notice of Abandonment and For Patent Term Restoration Under the AIPA was previously filed, attached Exhibit A. Please advise the undersigned as to the status of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

By: 
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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE: I hereby certify that this 2-page paper (Status Request and Exhibit A) are being transmitted via facsimile to 703 - 872-9306: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this day of August 31, 2004.

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EXHIBIT A**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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STAMP & RETURN

Docket No. : 7373/71172
Customer No. : 42798 (NEW)

CONFIRMATION COPY

Commissioner for Patents
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Arlington, VA 22202



August 5, 2004

**REQUEST TO WITHDRAW NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT
And
FOR PATENT TERM RESTORATION UNDER THE AIPA**

Dear Sir:

Applicants representative received a Notice of Abandonment dated July 27, 2004 in which Examiner Hai Vo checked the box for "No corrected drawings have been received." The Notice of Abandonment is clearly erroneous. Applicants paid the base issue fee and concurrently filed corrected drawings. Such actions were timely. Attached is the post card showing that the Patent Office received the formal drawings on June 7, 2004. It is respectfully suggested that a formal search be instituted within the PTO for the lost drawings. Applicants respectfully submit that the post card is *prima facie* evidence that the Patent Office received the drawings on time.

